EXCISE

2402

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

February 23, 1979

E - b(6)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

SUBJECT: Guyana Bodies, AID Funding

b(6)

[redacted] of the SFRC staff called this afternoon, at [redacted] request.

I told him that an enormous amount of time had been spent on the funding problem; we were convinced that DOD did not work as a source of funds; AID did not work perfectly but it was the best we could do.

I said we hoped that the Chairman would not ask GAO for an opinion, or ask us to withhold funding. Given the amount involved, the bizarre nature of the tragedy, and the amount of time already devoted to this issue, it was time to move on.

b(6) [redacted] said he understood. He asked how we would feel about language in their Committee report this year noting that the Guyana payment had been made, that it was unprecedented and extraordinary, and that it did not constitute a precedent for easy or casual resort to the AID funds. I said that would be acceptable.

[redacted] called back a few minutes later to say that the letter would not be sent if we could agree on language. He asked that we draft the language and that we not pay any bills until it had been agreed to and I reported this conversation to Chuck Costello (AID/GC) and asked him to draft the language. He will do so.

Leo R. Marks
Deputy Legal Adviser

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 3/2/81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED